



Phase II and Phase III Archeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18SO147

Site Name: Loretto Branch

Prehistoric ☒

Other name(s)

Historic ☒

Unknown ☐

Brief Description:

Late Archaic & Middle Woodland lithic scatter, Early to Late 19th century tenant/slave house

Site Location and Environmental Data:

Latitude 38.2198 Longitude -75.6940

Elevation 5 m Site slope 0

Site setting

-Site Setting restricted

-Lat/Long accurate to within 1 sq. mile, user may need to make slight adjustments in mapping to account for sites near state/county lines or streams

Maryland Archeological Research Unit No. 3

SCS soil & sediment code

Physiographic province Eastern Shore Coastal P

Terrestrial site ☒

Underwater site ☐

Ethnobotany profile available ☐ Maritime site ☐

Nearest Surface Water

Name (if any) Loretto Branch

Saltwater

Ocean ☐

Estuary/tidal river ☐

Tidewater/marsh ☐

Spring ☐

Minimum distance to water is 30 m

Freshwater

Stream/river ☒

Swamp ☐

Lake or pond ☐

Temporal & Ethnic Contextual Data:

Paleoindian site ☐

Woodland site ☐

Archaic site ☐

MD Adena ☐

Early archaic ☐

Early woodland ☐

Middle archaic ☐

Mid. woodland ☒

Late archaic ☒

Late woodland ☐

Contact period site ☐

ca. 1820 - 1860 ☒

ca. 1630 - 1675 ☐

ca. 1860 - 1900 ☒

ca. 1675 - 1720 ☐

ca. 1900 - 1930 ☐

ca. 1720 - 1780 ☐

Post 1930 ☐

ca. 1780 - 1820 ☒

Unknown historic context ☐

Unknown prehistoric context ☐

Unknown context ☐

Ethnic Associations (historic only)

Native American ☐

Asian American ☐

African American ☒

Unknown ☐

Anglo-American ☐

Other ☐

Hispanic ☐

Y=Confirmed, P=Possible

Site Function Contextual Data:

Historic

Urban/Rural? Rural ☒

Domestic

Homestead ☒

Farmstead ☐

Mansion ☐

Plantation ☐

Row/townhome ☐

Cellar ☐

Privy ☐

Industrial

Mining-related ☐

Quarry-related ☐

Mill ☐

Black/metalsmith ☐

Furnace/forge ☐

Other ☐

Transportation

Canal-related ☐

Road/railroad ☐

Wharf/landing ☐

Maritime-related ☐

Bridge ☐

Ford ☐

Educational

Commercial

Trading post ☐

Store ☐

Tavern/inn ☐

Military

Battlefield ☐

Fortification ☐

Encampment ☐

Townsite

Church/mtg house ☐

Ch support bldg ☐

Burial area

Cemetery ☐

Sepulchre ☐

Isolated burial ☐

Bldg or foundation

Possible Structure ☐

Post-in-ground ☐

Frame-built ☐

Masonry ☐

Other structure ☐

Slave related

Non-domestic agri ☐

Recreational ☐

Midden/dump ☐

Artifact scatter ☒

Spring or well ☐

Unknown ☐

Other context ☒

tenant or slave ☐

Interpretive Sampling Data:

Prehistoric context samples

Soil samples taken ☒

Flotation samples taken ☒

Other samples taken ☐

Historic context samples

Soil samples taken ☒

Flotation samples taken ☒

Other samples taken ☐



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Diagnostic Artifact Data:

Projectile Point Types	
Clovis	<input type="text"/>
Hardaway-Dalton	<input type="text"/>
Palmer	<input type="text"/>
Kirk (notch)	<input type="text"/>
Kirk (stem)	<input type="text"/>
Le Croy	<input type="text"/>
Morrow Mntn	<input type="text"/>
Guilford	<input type="text"/>
Brewerton	<input type="text"/>
Otter Creek	<input type="text"/>
Koens-Crispin	<input type="text"/>
Perkiomen	<input type="text"/>
Susquehanna	<input type="text"/>
Vernon	<input type="text"/>
Piscataway	<input type="text"/>
Calvert	<input type="text"/>
Selby Bay	<input type="text"/>
Jacks Rf (notch)	<input type="text"/>
Jacks Rf (pent)	<input type="text"/>
Madison/Potomac	<input type="text"/>
Levanna	<input type="text"/>

Prehistoric Sherd Types

Marcey Creek	<input type="text"/>	Popes Creek	<input type="text"/>	Shepard	<input type="text"/>	Keyser	<input type="text"/>
Dames Qtr	<input type="text"/>	Coulbourn	<input type="text"/>	Townsend	<input type="text"/>	Yeocomico	<input type="text"/>
Selden Island	<input type="text"/>	Watson	<input type="text"/>	Minguanan	<input type="text"/>	Monongahela	<input type="text"/>
Accokeek	<input type="text"/>	Mockley	<input type="text"/>	Sullivan Cove	<input type="text"/>	Susquehannock	<input type="text"/>
Wolfe Neck	<input type="text"/>	Clemson Island	<input type="text"/>	Shenks Ferry	<input type="text"/>		
Vinette	<input type="text"/>	Page	<input type="text"/>	Moyaone	<input type="text"/>		
				Potomac Cr	<input type="text"/>		

Historic Sherd Types

Earthenware	Ironstone	<input type="text"/>	21	Staffordshire	<input type="text"/>	Stoneware		
Astbury	<input type="text"/>	Jackfield	<input type="text"/>	Tin Glazed	<input type="text"/>	English Brown	<input type="text"/>	
Borderware	<input type="text"/>	Mn Mottled	<input type="text"/>	Whiteware	<input type="text"/>	Eng Dry-bodie	<input type="text"/>	
Buckley	<input type="text"/>	North Devon	<input type="text"/>	Porcelain	<input type="text"/>	3	Nottingham	<input type="text"/>
Creamware	<input type="text"/>	Pearlware	<input type="text"/>				Rhenish	<input type="text"/>
	21		265				Wt Salt-glazed	<input type="text"/>

All quantities exact or estimated minimal counts

Other Artifact & Feature Types:

Prehistoric Artifacts	
Flaked stone	<input type="text"/>
Ground stone	<input type="text"/>
Stone bowls	<input type="text"/>
Fire-cracked rock	<input type="text"/>
Other lithics (all)	<input type="text"/>
Ceramics (all)	<input type="text"/>
Rimsherds	<input type="text"/>
Other fired clay	<input type="text"/>
Human remain(s)	<input type="text"/>
Modified faunal	<input type="text"/>
Unmod faunal	<input type="text"/>
Oyster shell	<input type="text"/>
Floral material	<input type="text"/>
Uncommon Obj.	<input type="text"/>
Other	<input type="text"/>

Prehistoric Features

Mound(s)	<input type="text"/>	Storage/trash pit	<input type="text"/>
Midden	<input type="text"/>	Burial(s)	<input type="text"/>
Shell midden	<input type="text"/>	Ossuary	<input type="text"/>
Postholes/molds	<input type="text"/>	Unknown	<input type="text"/>
House pattern(s)	<input type="text"/>	Other	<input type="text"/>
Palisade(s)	<input type="text"/>		
Hearth(s)	<input type="text"/>		
Lithic reduc area	<input type="text"/>		

Lithic Material

Fer quartzite	<input type="text"/>	Sil sandstone	<input type="text"/>
Jasper	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Chalcedony	<input type="text"/>
Chert	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ironstone	<input type="text"/>
Rhyolite	<input type="text"/>	Argilite	<input type="text"/>
Quartz	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Steatite	<input type="text"/>
Quartzite	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Sandstone	<input type="text"/>

☐ Dated features present at site

Historic Artifacts	
Pottery (all)	<input type="text"/>
Glass (all)	<input type="text"/>
Architectural	<input type="text"/>
Furniture	<input type="text"/>
Arms	<input type="text"/>
Clothing	<input type="text"/>
Personal items	<input type="text"/>
Tobacco related	<input type="text"/>
Activity item(s)	<input type="text"/>
Human remain(s)	<input type="text"/>
Faunal material	<input type="text"/>
Misc. kitchen	<input type="text"/>
Floral material	<input type="text"/>
Misc.	<input type="text"/>
Other	<input type="text"/>

Historic Features

Privy/outhouse	<input type="text"/>	Depression/mound	<input type="text"/>	Unknown	<input type="text"/>
Const feature	<input type="text"/>	Well/cistern	<input type="text"/>	Burial(s)	<input type="text"/>
Foundation	<input type="text"/>	Trash pit/dump	<input type="text"/>	Railroad bed	<input type="text"/>
Cellar hole/cellar	<input type="text"/>	Sheet midden	<input type="text"/>	Earthworks	<input type="text"/>
Hearth/chimney	<input type="text"/>	Planting feature	<input type="text"/>	Mill raceway	<input type="text"/>
Postholes/molds	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Road/walkway	<input type="text"/>	Wheel pit	<input type="text"/>
Paling ditch/fence	<input type="text"/>				

All quantities exact or estimated minimal counts

Radiocarbon Data:

Sample 1:	<input type="text"/>	+/-	<input type="text"/>	years BP	Reliability	Sample 2:	<input type="text"/>	+/-	<input type="text"/>	years BP	Reliability	Sample 3:	<input type="text"/>	+/-	<input type="text"/>	years BP	Reliability
Sample 4:	<input type="text"/>	+/-	<input type="text"/>	years BP	Reliability	Sample 5:	<input type="text"/>	+/-	<input type="text"/>	years BP	Reliability	Sample 6:	<input type="text"/>	+/-	<input type="text"/>	years BP	Reliability
Sample 7:	<input type="text"/>	+/-	<input type="text"/>	years BP	Reliability	Sample 8:	<input type="text"/>	+/-	<input type="text"/>	years BP	Reliability	Sample 9:	<input type="text"/>	+/-	<input type="text"/>	years BP	Reliability

☐ Additional radiocarbon results available



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External Samples/Data:

☐ Additional raw data may be available online

Collection curated at Fieldnotes and forms at MHT. The artifacts were returned

Summary Description:

The Loretto Branch Site (18SO147) is a multi-component site with an Early to Middle Woodland lithic scatter and an early to late 19th century tenant/slave house. This site is located in a wooded area along the bank of Loretta Branch, a tributary of the Manokin River in Somerset County. Survey work was carried out at the proposed location of the University of Maryland Eastern Shore Access Road for the Maryland Department of Transportation, State Highway Administration. The project area contained pasture, farm, and commercial land, mostly privately owned. The environmental setting includes wetlands, wooded areas, cultivated fields, and several water channels that may be intermittent streams or field drainage ditches. The soils in the project area consist of poorly drained Othello-Portsmouth Association silt loams and well-to-moderately drained Matapeake-Mattapex Association silt loams. The site is located along the edge of a former millpond. The site had been partially plowed, while the remainder appears to be undisturbed.

Three right-of-ways (or alternate routes) were proposed for the access road: Alternate 4, Alternate 6/6A, and Alternate 7. The purpose of the Phase Ib survey was to document the presence or absence of potentially significant archeological resources within the 2.7 kilometers of 30 meter wide right-of-way that comprises the project area. A review of historic sources did not indicate that any historic properties were located inside the project area. Phase I commenced in late 1990 and included the excavation of systematic shovel test pits (STPs) and pedestrian survey. Six STP transects were surveyed, 2 in each alternate route. The STPs were placed at 20 meter intervals with closer 5 meter testing placed in cardinal directions around positive STPs. A total of 255 STPs were excavated in the project area. Pedestrian surveys were walked at 6 meter intervals in areas with ground visibility, mainly limited to the west end of Alternates 6/6A and 7.

Early 19th century artifacts were recovered from 16 positive STPs in a 60 x 40 meter area during the Phase I survey. The site (18SO147) was located on Alternates 6/6A and 7 where Alternate 6/6A diverges from Alternate 7. Architecture-related items included 5 nails and 1 window glass shard. Kitchen items included 37 whiteware sherds, 14 pearlware sherds, 2 redware sherds and 1 each yellowware and porcelain sherds. There were also 6 pieces of bottle glass. One unidentified piece of metal is the only miscellaneous item. Finally, one ceramic pipe stem fragment was recovered.

A second Phase I assessment was undertaken in late 1991 in order to survey the area of the modified Alternate 6/6A tract. Four shovel tests were excavated within the boundaries of 18SO147 but no further artifacts or data were recovered.

The goal of the Phase II testing as reported in 1993 was to assess the integrity, significance, and horizontal and vertical extent of the archeological deposits at the Loretto Branch Site. A 5 meter grid was established and a total of 196 STPs were excavated. The artifact types and frequencies were plotted on a map and eleven 1 meter X 1 meter units were excavated in the areas of highest artifact density. Phase II testing indicated that the site was much larger, measuring 460 x 53 meters, and also contained a prehistoric component. Only a few activity-related items were recovered. These are 30 pieces of barbed wire, 9 lighting fragments, and 2 staples. A total of 590 architectural items were found during Phase II. These are: 475 brick fragments, 17 cut nails, 1 wire nail, 37 unidentified nails, and 60 window glass shards. Two buttons were identified: 1 was made of brass and another was an unidentifiable material. One brass tack, possibly of a piece of furniture was found. Kitchen-related items included 218 whiteware, 251 pearlware, 38 redware, 2 yellowware, 3 porcelain, and 23 ironstone sherds. There were also 2 'other' ceramic sherds, 1 lusterware sherd, and 38 unidentifiable ceramics. Glass was found in a number of varieties including 53 bottle glass fragments, 2 hand blown shards, 5 blown in mold shards, 32 machine made fragments and 4 table glass shards. There were 5 fragmented faunal remains and 11 shell, primarily oyster but with some clam. Four miscellaneous objects of unidentifiable metal were also recovered. There were 20 ceramic pipe fragments, 15 of these were bowl fragments and 5 were stem fragments. One cartridge shell was the only armament located.

There was a very small prehistoric component to the site. Artifacts consisted of 35 pieces of debitage made from chert, jasper, quartz, and quartzite, 1 modified chert flake, 3 biface fragments and 3 projectile points. The points were identified as a jasper Rossville Point, a quartzite Rossville Point, and a chert Lamoka-like Point. These are dated from the Early to Middle Woodland periods.

A number of disturbance factors including clearing and plowing have impacted the historic and prehistoric components at the Loretto Branch Site (18SO147). No historic features except for 3 possible post molds were identified. Artifacts representing historic occupations have been mixed and dispersed post-depositionally. The prehistoric component is sparse and has suffered that same post-depositional activity as seen in the historic occupations. Site 18SO147 is not NHRP eligible and further data collection would not contribute significantly to Maryland archeology.

External Reference Codes (Library ID Numbers):

00006102, 00006103, 00006106